

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail in P.E.I., \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months
\$1.25 for 3 months; 50c for one month
City Delivery \$5.00 per year; \$3.00 for 6 months
\$1.75 for 3 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at
Hastings News Agency, Times Square, New York; Old
South News Agency, Corner Milk and Washington,

The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the
Weakest Ink.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1941.

General McNaughton's Plea

Reading over again that Canadian Press report of Lieut. General McNaughton's talk with Canadian newspapermen, the Ottawa Journal asks whether there was in it a rather pointed message to the Canadian Government.

On the surface the reply may seem harmless enough. Yet on examination it seems a pretty clear and direct statement from the commander of the Canadian Corps that no co-ordinate plans concerning manpower have yet been made for the maximum war effort.

General McNAUGHTON is an exceptionally intelligent man—one who understands the full meaning of words and careful in using them. It is hard to believe he dropped these few sentences unwittingly. It seems almost that having failed to get from Ottawa the long range type of co-ordinated planning a good soldier likes to have, he took this occasion to voice his needs.

A Job For The Censor

This example of "how rumors start" is given in the Financial Post. A couple of weeks ago Premier Hepburn was in New York. He lunched with a Chase National Bank vice-president. Someone asked a policeman (part of the motorcycle escort from LaGuardia Field) who was the "big shot" meeting the bankers. The cop said, "The Prime Minister of Canada."

That is all our Toronto contemporary says on the subject. It misses the most interesting angle of the story altogether.

Fancy the commotion "Mitch" must have raised on being mistaken for—of all persons—Mackenzie King! His language wouldn't have a ghost of a chance of getting past the censor. The New York papers boast of publishing "all the news that's fit to print," but we imagine the Ontario Liberal Premier would require more latitude than that on such an occasion.

How About Election Gas?

The Evening News opines that the coming Nova Scotia election is going to present some problems for the boys in the back rooms who have to figure out ways and means of getting voters to the polls.

It is a well-established voters' "right" these days to demand to be driven to the polls in the shiny car of one of the candidate's supporters or in an equally fine vehicle hired for the day.

But the election in our sister Province comes near the end of the month and experience indicates that about that time there will be a serious shortage of gasoline without which cars will not run. The reason, of course, is that unnecessary gas consumption at any time is cramping Canada's war effort, and pressure is being applied to reduce this consumption to the minimum.

So by the time October 28 comes around, there won't be much left. "The privilege of voting is something that should be treasured more than ever in these days when it is being challenged by Hitler," says the News; "but just the same we'll bet a good many people will be peeved when they are told they will have to walk. Their resentment will not be favorable to government candidates already smarting under the sting of the charges that there was no need of an election at this time."

Facing The Facts

There is a long road yet to be travelled before Nazi defeat is assured. "Free World," the new international monthly, in its initial issue, says: "The World Party of Assassins, with its ten million members and its various national branches—the German National Socialist party, the Italian Fascist party, the Japanese Black Dragon Society, the French Cagoulards, the Spanish Phalangis, each responsible for thousands of crimes—will thrash around like a wild beast before facing the hour of its terrible accounting."

The certainties of the future are that there is plenty of fighting ahead. The war is far from won; it can still be lost. Without being actually lost it might bog down into a stalemate that would ruin the world for a hundred years. Nothing but victory clear-cut, decisive and final, will

serve. There is nothing in the situation, to make words which Churchill uttered just a year ago, less fitting today: "Because we feel easier in ourselves and see our way more clearly through our difficulties and danger than we did some months ago... do not let us dull for one moment the sense of the awful hazards in which we stand. Do not let us lose the conviction that it is only by supreme and superb exertions, unwearied and indomitable, that we shall save our souls alive."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Will the crops here be sufficiently harvested by next Monday for Harvest Thanksgiving?

After all, it is just as well that the City Council, in its judgement, delegated the disciplining and oversight of the police to a Commission of its own membership. In its case there is not necessarily a safety in numbers.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, poet laureate, born this date, 1809. His output of poetry was extensive, and, with the exception of the first two volumes, all immensely popular.

"And thus he bore without abuse The grand old name of gentleman, Defamed by every charlatan, And soiled with all ignoble use."

Axis officer prisoners of war camped somewhere in Palestine thought they could turn their guards by dubbing the orderly who cleaned their quarters "Mr. Churchill." The officer in charge bided his time until the next routine camp inspection, when the prisoners, replying to questions, said their rations were better than they had received in active service and the clothing provided was ample, but they complained that their quarters "haven't been cleaned for a fortnight." "I am really sorry," replied the officer, "but you are probably aware that Mr. Churchill is very busy fighting a war on four continents to crush Hitler and his regime. You will have to clean up around here without his help."

Education of the Dionne Quintuplets, it has been decided, will be placed in the hands of the Ontario Department of Education. Mr. Keith Munro, the quintuplets' business manager, says they and the other Dionne children would start immediately to be taught by methods accepted by the Department of Education for the teaching of English and French pupils of the province. Referring to a letter sent to the quintuplets' father by Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn approving his suggestion that the quintuplets be reunited with the Dionne family, Mr. Munro said the reunion would take place as soon as possible. The board of guardians will supervise the quintuplets' financial affairs and Dr. Allan R. Dafoe will supervise the care of their health.

As 156 candidates have been nominated, contests will take place in all British Columbia's 48 seats on Tuesday, October 21. Liberals have been nominated in every constituency. With two candidates in North Vancouver—one of them recognized by the party and the other not—the Conservatives have 44 candidates in the field while the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation has 45. There are four Labor candidates and 15 others running under various political designations. There are 11 more candidates than in the 1937 general election, when 144 were entered. A total vote of 422,072 was polled then to elect 31 Liberals, eight Conservatives, seven C.F. and one Independent. The standing at dissolution last July was the same, despite four by-elections in the intervening years.

Saint John, N.B., City Council has called in an expert to advise them how they can reduce their staff and effect other economies. In this they are following the lead of the Quebec Municipal Commission which has already accomplished marvels by the adoption of measures for improving conditions in Montreal. Statistics given out by Finance Director Lactanel Roberge show that since the Municipal Commission took over there has been a drop of 1,376 in the number of employees to date. This is the breakdown of the diminution: On September 27, 1941, there were 1,733 permanent workers compared with 1,859 on May 1940; 524 semi-permanent employees against 947; 1,633 members of the police department against 1,570; 993 members of the fire department against 1,002; and 2,511 auxiliary workers (paid by the hour as needed) compared with 3,392. Whatever motive inspired the reduction, the saving to the taxpayers is obviously a substantial one.

Deploping the tendency on the part of not a few stay-at-home to justify their conduct by imputing that those of the older generation are getting the younger ones to do their fighting, New York Times declares that it is utter rubbish for slackers to slander the heroic, unselfish motive of those who have voluntarily shouldered the burden. It is really untrue that those who do the fighting—the young—feel very differently about war from those who are too old to fight. It was not the older generation that started hostilities but German youth. Hitler's "Mein Kampf" is formally dedicated to sixteen men who fell in his abortive putsch of November, 1923. Their names and dates of birth are listed. Eight of the sixteen were under 25 years of age and five were 22 or less. Only four men were over 40. The average age of the group was 30 and Hitler himself at the time was 34. Were these five boys of college age, and the young men under 25, enlisted in a cause apt to stir our democratic pulses today? They were pioneers in one of the most deplorable enterprises in the annals of the race. It is folly to attribute this war of aggression to the older generation, except in so far as the Allies were responsible for criminal unpreparedness. It is equally folly for slackers to justify their non-response to calls for service on the ground that youth did not force the issue. It did, as "Mein Kampf" proves, and are our youth afraid to accept Nazi youths' challenge? Not where red blood flows.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Coffee is \$12.50 a pound in Italy and the fact can't be blamed for Mussolini's sleepless nights. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

This is the end of the road of isolation, which we followed patiently for twenty years. If America shows little further disposition to heed the isolationists, they may lose upon their own records bluish and understand. — New York Post.

New chairs of "organic design" are being shown at the Modern Museum of Art. The most organic of all American chairs is the round stool in front of a lunch counter. — The New York Times.

Scientists of the United States Bureau of Dairy Industry have produced a potato chip that contains the sense of the potato and keeps indefinitely. Judgment on this achievement, however, will have to be reserved until more is learned of how flavor fared in this struggle for immortality. — Windsor Star.

Worry, so common to all of us, is based upon a uncertainty of the future. We fear that our employment may not be sure, that an accident may happen while we are traveling, that our health will not continue, or that we shall be unable to solve a present problem. Apparently it does no good to remember that most of our former worries concerning things that did not happen at all; we continue to worry over what may take place in the future. This is hardly good intelligence. — Rays of Sunshine.

One of the pleasures of elevation to the peerage is the selection or construction of a new title. This is not a matter for decision on the part of the monarch since to few peers comes the chance of indulging second thoughts. Sir Hugh Selby has fulfilled local expectations by finding his title on the premises, so to say. The wonder is that so eligible a forest name as Sherwood has not been adopted, before Sherwood Lodge, where Sir Hugh resides, is in the parish of Sherwood, but the new peer has preferred to link his title with the adjacent parish of Calverton, in which he is the considerable owner of land. Calverton is near the village of a certain Arnold. We know that titles are archaic survivals and all that sort of thing, but the most pre-arranged in Calverton tonight will not be wholly indifferent to the village's exaltation into the rarefied atmosphere of Dobreit. — Nottingham Guardian.

Sir: See where the army has ordered a lot of drums to pep up marching soldiers. Why not a lot of bagpipes, too? Maybe it is due to an old derive from the fact that my Scottish ancestry, but to me the pipes are the only real music for marching men and fighting men. An Atlantic City on Saturday afternoon at five o'clock, twenty or thirty strong, came swinging down the Boardwalk, Stars and Stripes and Union Bugle in hand. They were the grand old time players for a few years and years since I have smacked anybody in anger, but I think if anybody had pointed out to me that the pipes were the best, with all my sixty years and 180 pounds behind it.—FORBES.—Letter to New York Sun.

The official attendance of the Canadian National Exhibition this year reached the impressive total of 1,839,000 persons, an increase of 100,000 over last year, and a figure that came close to the high mark of slightly more than two million in 1928. The latter record, however, is said rarely to have been equaled, as only paid admissions are included in the official attendance; and this year thousands of members of the Canadian armed forces were admitted free of charge. The number of the official attendance for 1941, the total is given as 2,100,000 persons, an all-time high. — Hamilton Spectator.

Is Canada doing all that it can? Are Canadian plants working to the utmost of their capacity? Are the wisest of industries turning twenty-four hours a day? Are the necessary production draining this capacity for war production? Is an all-out effort being made by each and every citizen? These are pertinent questions, and the answer to each is "not fully." It is not enough to be working toward an unqualified affirmative reply; there must be determination and resolve to achieve maximum efficiency without further delay. — Victoria Colonist.

We feel not a bit grateful when Lord Woolton promises us only one egg per person. We praise him on the other hand for his bargain with Ireland, which seems to secure for us nearly all the fish except herrings which that strategic island is able to take out of the sea before we get to the end of June, 1941. To mention the use of salted and frozen fish which it now holds. We look forward with greedy pleasure to the two pounds of onions each which he promises us at the end of the season and do not fear the effect upon our moral nature of the abundance of carrots which he announces. — Manchester Guardian.

The military unit of the seven to 18-year-olds in the neighborhood seems to have been built up to a high state of efficiency. For smartness, marching and precision with wooden guns there is probably no platoon of comparable age in the city of Exeter. Moreover, the vacant garage which is used as headquarters is altogether suitable, not merely because of its housing accommodations, but also for its club facilities and the fact that the militarists find night time guard duty unnecessary it is probably because all prospective enemies are also advised by their mothers when it is time to come in, get washed up and go to bed. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

A mass meeting of workers of an aircraft factory in the north-west unanimously decided to demand from the Minister of Aircraft (Colonel Moore-Brabazon, M.P.) a speed-up in production. Speakers alleged that bad management had resulted in the loss of thousands of hours of labor, that men were kept idle in the factory owing to the inefficient work of sub-contractors, and that because of the decision of the authorities to change over from the production of one type of plane to another, work will be practically at a standstill for many months until the new plant is installed. — Liverpool Daily Post.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
We are making war because we want peace, not the peace of submission and shame, but peace with independence and honour. — Premier Pierlot of Belgium.

Fascist Remnants

A reminder that there are still some remnants of Italy's once powerful army scattered in a few of the mountain passes of Ethiopia, with the announcement of the surrender of the Fascist garrison of Wolcheft in the Gondar sector of Haile Selassie's restored kingdom. This garrison is said to have numbered about 4,000 men, who occupied a position of considerable importance because they commanded a strategic pass which was easily held on account of geographical conditions. The surrender of this force leaves about 9,000 refugee Fascists under arms in Ethiopia. The surrendered garrison were a half-starved, ragged, wretched body of men.

There is unintended humor as well as pathos in the official communique issued at Rome announcing the loss of Wolcheft. "Before they yielded," the Rome announcement says, "this small unit of Italian and Colonial troops which had held out against many attacks for five months made one last sortie. It was a gesture of defiance that climaxed one of the heroic episodes of the war. Crowning previous offensive and defensive action, this Italian garrison carried out an audacious sortie, engaging and repelling numerically superior enemy forces and inflicting heavy losses on them." This is Italy's last stronghold in Ethiopia except Gondar, which is much more heavily defended but does not have strong natural defences comparable to those of Wolcheft. Since the Gondar Italians are doomed, the Ethiopian patriots and the British are likely to let them take their time about surrendering rather than sacrifice lives unnecessarily.

It was because Wolcheft was held to time and starvation that it held out for practically five months after Ethiopia had passed out of Italian hands. The capitulation of Gondar is likely to be announced at almost any time. It could be taken by storm with little difficulty but it is unlikely that there will be any bloodshed preceding this surrender. The last chapter, all but a few words, has been written in the history of Mussolini's Ethiopian Empire.

Unconquerables

(Norwegian Press Bureau)
On August 23 fifteen prominent citizens of the town of Sandefjord were ordered by telephone to appear immediately at the local police station, says a message from Norway. There they were met by Gestapo agents and ordered to remove anti-Nazi inscriptions—V-signs and the King's initials—which had appeared in streets and on a factory on the outskirts of the town. The citizens, among whom were a lawyer, two editors, an engineer, a member of parliament, a banker, the city treasurer, and several merchants, were then divided in two groups, and forced to march through the main streets led by police and followed by the Gestapo in motor cars. Large crowds gathered and shouted insults at the Nazi agents who, it is said, appeared noticeably uneasy.

When the scene of the inscriptions "disrespectful to the Germans Reich" was finally reached, two hundred Norwegian men were there ready with soap, rags and pails of water. But the Gestapo drove them aside, and forced the men to do the work. One merchant of Jewish origin, was compelled to keep on scrubbing walls long after

Nazi Paganism

(Hamilton Spectator)
Confronting British and Allied statesmen is the question. What kind of a Germany will there be to make peace with when the war ends? By all accounts it is likely to be a nation that is receptive neither to a Christian nor a democratic order. Most ominous of the Hitlerian trends is the continued suppression of the church and the spread of paganism, both state inspired.

Many pastors have been sent to concentration camps, and their number may be judged by the report that at one camp recently there were no fewer than ninety of them. More than 60 per cent of all ministers in Germany are said to have been removed from their churches for service in the army—and not as chaplains—thus depriving their congregations of Christian leadership. Virtually all religious publications have been banned; the Y.M.C.A. has been closed in the large centres, and all Christian Science Churches have likewise been suppressed. Nuns and monks of the Roman Catholic Church have been driven out of their institutions and forced to work in factories or offices. The enrolment at theological schools has dwindled from a norm of six hundred students to thirty-nine. Several hundred Protestant ministers and Roman Catholic priests, who protested outspokenly against the state killing of a large number of aged incurables, were arrested and evidently sent to concentration camps.

The work of the church in Germany has been seriously impaired by the impositions of financial restrictions and other limitations of Christian endeavour. Pastors who are known to be critical of the Nazi have been made to work twelve hours a day in other channels to prevent them from visiting their flocks and looking after their spiritual welfare. Control of church finance has been applied by the state, which makes voluntary collections impossible. No religious instruction is permitted save in church buildings. No one is permitted to join a church until he or she is past the age of 21, it being the state belief that few young people will be inclined to do so at that age after they have become steeped in Nazi doctrine. No contact of the churches in one part of the country is permitted with churches in another part. No religious literature can be sent to soldiers. No pastors are permitted in work camps of students, and no pastor can correspond with young people in these camps. The singing of Christian hymns is banned in most of these camps. Book stores are not allowed to stock or sell religious literature.

A Nazi victory will mean a black-out for the Christian churches of Europe, as the thesis of Hitler and his leaders is this: "Germans must choose between Christ and the Fatherland." They are told that they can not be loyal to both. A loyal Nazi therefore automatically becomes a pagan, and the disturbing fact is that there are said to be millions of them in their teens, twenties and thirties.

Every mark had been removed. Finally, the groups were marched back by a roundabout way to the police station and photographed by the Gestapo. This incident aroused violent anger throughout the whole district and people swore they would get revenge at the earliest possible moment. Meanwhile the Germans published notices in the press and put up posters warning that the most drastic punishment would follow any more such anti-Nazi demonstrations. But by the very next morning every one of these warning posters had been painted over with King Haakon's initials.

He who is sure, has all to learn; Who fears, but fears in vain? For never a day does the year turn, But it shall turn again. — John Drinkwater.



"Victory is right in our pockets"

Joan: "You mean the war is as good as won, Peter?"
Peter: "No, my dear, not by a long way. But this pocketful of War Savings Certificates we're accumulating must be helping turn the scale."
Joan: "Every time we buy another one you feel we buy another bit of victory...."
Peter: "I do. Every penny we put into War Savings Certificates brings peace and victory nearer."
Joan: "And how we shall enjoy spending all that money—and the interest it will have earned—when the world gets back to normal!"

The help of every Canadian is needed for Victory. In these days of war the thoughtless selfish spender is a traitor to our war effort. A reduction in personal spending is now a vital necessity to relieve the pressure for goods, to enable more and more labour and materials to be diverted to winning the war. The all-out effort, which Canada must make, demands this self-denial of each of us.

SPEND LESS — TO BUY MORE WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

The Poet's Corner
ROTATION
Even the owls are lyrical
When the moon's right,
And we have no patience with the stars
On a dusty night.
Love is dull when the mood is wrong,
And age may outstrip youth;
For there is no measuring a song,
Nor counting upon truth.
All's well, and then a flood of loss
Surges upon delight,
While the rose buds upon the cross,
And the blind have sight.
Morning wisdom vanishes
And dusk brings dread
That stalwart sleep banishes
Ere primes are said.
He who is sure, has all to learn;
Who fears, but fears in vain?
For never a day does the year turn,
But it shall turn again.
— John Drinkwater.

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